DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 397 455 CS 509 287

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TITLE Theatre Games for Young Performers: Improvisations and Exercises for Developing Acting Skills.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-916260-31-3
PUB DATE 85
NOTE 156p.
AVAILABLE FROM Meriwether Publishing Ltd., P.O. Box 7710, Colorado Springs, CO 80933 ($12.95).
PUB TYPE Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Acting; *Adolescents; Class Activities; *Creative Dramatics; Creative Expression; Educational Games; *Improvisation; Junior High Schools; *Pantomime
IDENTIFIERS Drama in Education

ABSTRACT

Assuming no prior dramatic training or experience with adolescents, this book contains approximately 50 dramatic activities that have been devised, adapted, and used with success with adolescent performers, ages 12 to 15. Not a textbook for performers, the book serves as a resource for drama teachers and coaches, Scout leaders, church youth leaders, and recreational and camp directors. The first chapter of the book, "Terms and Goals for Performers," defines basic theatre vocabulary and discusses goals actors should strive for in each performance. The second chapter, "Planning Your Program," offers suggestions for building a dramatics program and provides tips for organizing and governing junior-high-aged performers. The final three chapters consist of the activities themselves, and focus on three major areas of drama: pantomime, voice, and improvisation. In each chapter of the book, the activities are prefaced by a brief introduction and divided into two groups: "short-short" impromptu activities, and longer, rehearsed performances. The activities in the book is described in detail, including an example of the performance, recommended stage materials and time lengths, and suggestions for conducting the activity. Each rehearsed performance in the book also includes a worksheet (filled out as an example) that actors complete before rehearsing. (RS)

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